



The

# GARzette



The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

August 2024 <http://www.gars.org/> Volume 51, Issue 8

## Inside

President's Message	2
GARS Repeaters and Other Communications	3
About the GARzette	3
GARS Meetings & Workshops	4
GARS Happenings	5
Net Managers Corner	5
General HamCram July 27 and 28 Results	6
Upcoming GARS Technician HamCram	6
Novice License Radio Equipment	7
GARS Membership	16
GARS Meeting Minutes	18
Events – GARS and others	19
Local Ham Radio Exams & Meetings	21
GARS Supporters	22



[www.GARS.org](http://www.GARS.org)

**Don't forget to support our  
advertisers at the back of the  
GARzette.**



**GARS January Exhibition of the  
Technical aspects of Amateur Radio  
Held at the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds**

**GARS Meeting: What can I do with DMR – Bob Hoffmann K4CQO  
Tuesday August 13, 2024 at 7:00 PM**



## President's Message

### From the President...



Welcome to the dog days of summer but the falling leaves of the cherries tree have me hopefully that cooler weather is just around the corner. I'm ready to get back out and doing some portable operations, either Parks on the Air or Summits on the Air.

Hopefully you were able to participate in the **13 Colonies** special event from **July 1<sup>st</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>**. I know several club members were able to get multiple stations and some even got a clean sweep.

Hoping to see several fellow GARS members at the upcoming **Huntsville Hamfest** on August 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. There is always an interesting forum to attend or something that you can pick up to bring back to shack. I'll be doing a POTA rove on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> activating a bunch of State Parks and WMAs on the way to and from Huntsville.

Once again, Ralph (KJ4CNC) and John (WB4QDX) held another successful General

HamCram on **July 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>**. Congrats to all the new generals and hoping to hear you on the air soon. If you are looking at some simple antenna projects, come to our September meeting where Dallas (N4DDM) will be giving a presentation to help get you started.

As mentioned at the last meeting, we are looking for a couple of chair positions. We are looking for a TechFest chair to help organize our annual event in January as well as Field Day chair. I would like to thank David (KA4KKF) for steering these two events over the last several years.

### Coming up:

Save the date for the Stone Mountain HamFest on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>; as always, we need volunteers to come out and support the event and have fun at the same time. The planning committee is hard at work and the event is starting to come together.

73,

**Kevin W4KIB**  
Club President

## GARS Repeaters and Other Communications

<b><u>2 Meter Repeaters</u></b> 147.075(+) MHz Tone 82.5 147.255(+) MHz Tone 107.2  <b><u>1.25 Meter Repeater</u></b> 224.580(-) MHz Tone 100.0, 1.6 MHz Offset  <b><u>70 Cm Repeaters</u></b> 444.525(+) MHz Tone 82.5 442.100(+) MHz Tone 100 442.325(+) MHz Tone 100	<b><u>6 Meter Repeater</u></b> 53.110 (-1 MHz) No Tone (Offline for Maintenance)  <b>Other Resources:</b> <u>APRS</u> 144.390 -- 1200 Baud W4GR  <u>D-STAR (WD4STR)</u> 145.060 + (1.4 MHz) 440.550 + (5 MHz)	6M      Currently down 147.075      Operational in Snellville 147.255      Operational in Snellville 224.580      Operational in Grayson 442.100      Operational at Goshen Springs Rd, Norcross 442.325      Operational in Buford 444.525      Operational in Snellville  Link remote receivers being added
---	---	--

### Notable Web Links

Ham Radio Glossary: <https://noji.com/hamradio/glossary.php> a very comprehensive listing provided by Noji Ratzlaff KNØJI. On his site there is also a lot of information about getting started in ham radio.

### Need Help – Let GARS Elmers answer your questions

Send an email to [elmers@gars.org](mailto:elmers@gars.org) with the subject listing the area (like Antennas, Repeaters, Digital, DMR etc.) of your query to get to GARS Elmer volunteers.

## About the GARzette

The *GARzette* is the official monthly newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the Amateur Radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word or rich text (.rtf) or text or HTML format or by e-mail to [editor@gars.org](mailto:editor@gars.org). Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via e-mail to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the Amateur Radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The *GARzette* articles by other Amateur Radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and *The GARzette*.

*The GARzette* is published each month with the assistance of Karen KI4HPP and Kyle W4KDA who print copies for distribution at meetings, etc. and Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the newsletter electronically.

Deadline for submissions is the 28th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For additional information view our Website at: <http://www.gars.org> [PS— Articles to publish in the *GARzette*, either written by GARS

members or published elsewhere, are always welcome. —Ed.]

Newsletter Email: [editor@gars.org](mailto:editor@gars.org) Editor: Bob Hoffmann, K4CQO

### GARS Personalized Mugs for sale – Bits Print and Press



**Jolie  
Dellaneve-  
Brown,  
KO4AHI**



<mailto:bitsprintandpress@gmail.com>

## GARS Meetings & Workshops

**GARS Meetings and Workshops are held in-person at the EAA 690 Hangar, 690 Airport Rd, Lawrenceville, GA 30046.**

**Meetings and Workshops are OPEN to all, feel free to share your invite with others.**

**Zoom login** info will be posted to <http://www.gars.org> prior to the meeting.

### GARS Meetings Schedule (second Tuesday @ 7:00 PM): (these are the presentations)

- August 13 – What can I do with DMR – Bob Hoffmann K4CQO
- September 10 - Simple Get on the Air Antennas for HF, VHF, and UHF – Dallas N4DDM
- October 8 - GARS Show-n-Tell, Home Brew/Favorite Projects
- November 12 - Modulation - Steve Back WB4OGY
- December 7 – GARS Holiday Party and GARS Ham of the Year Announcement

### Workshop Schedule (third Tuesday @ 7:00 PM): (these are the Hands-on Workshops)

- August 20 – What can I do with DMR – Bob Hoffmann K4CQO
- September 17 - Get on the Air Antennas for HF, VHF, and UHF - Dallas Mellichamp N4DDM
- October 15 - GARS Show-n-Tell, Home Brew/Favorite Projects
- November 19 - Modulation - Steve Back WB4OGY
- December – No workshop in December

#### GARS Meeting – August 13, 2024 What can I do with DMR

Bob, K4CQO, will be providing a talk on the benefits and capabilities of using DMR. It will focus on what capabilities are available in DMR. It is an introduction to how DMR provides phone connection without going into the technical inner details of DMR.

Bob currently runs the Georgia Digital groups.io and the Wednesday Digital Net on DMR Talk Group 3113.

#### GARS Workshop – August 19, 2024

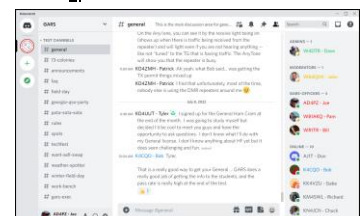
The workshop will help and answer any questions about DMR set-up on your devices – so bring DMR questions and DMR equipment to the workshop.

Feel free to bring any ham related questions you have including equipment setup and usage. We typically have 5 or more Elmers at each Workshop.

GARS would like to thank Alex Kowalchuk, AK4AM, for giving a tutorial about getting a radio into your vehicle, including antenna mounting ideas, radio mounting, radio power options, etc.



Don't forget about our Discord utility for GARS announcements, news, activity spotting and more. See <http://www.gars.org> top of the home page. This is a sample of Discord. →





## GARS Happenings

### 20 Years ago in the August 2004 GARzette:

- WE5O, Ron Langstone has a good article about having ham books in your library
- The General Ham Class was advertised coming up in September 2002!
- GARS started putting the GARzette past issues on the GARS website.

You can always browse the GARzette archive at <http://www.gars.org/newsletters>. 73, Bob, K4CQO, GARzette Editor



### Health and Wellbeing – Sandy Jackson, KJ4DRO

Look for this resource on Email (<https://gars.org/contact/>) and use it as a means to convey information about a GARS family member or Silent Key notification.

## Net Managers Corner

### Monday Night 2 Meter “Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net”

#### GARS NEEDS MEMBERS TO SERVE AS NET CONTROL STATIONS!

GARS is a great Amateur Radio service club with the membership and awards to prove it. Our club is very busy and active, and we use the Monday night net to get timely information out to our members. Weekly participation is needed to make our net function well. There is only a small group of very dedicated people who make the net happen each week, and we need more members to volunteer to serve as Net Control Stations (NCS) on a rotating basis.

Out of almost 300 members, there are only five operators who serve as the NCS for the GARS net every Monday night. In no particular order, they are:

Ray – N4GYN      David – KA4KKF      Kevin – W4KIB      Bill - WD4AMC      Chuck – KK4TKJ

As GARS Net Manager (Chuck KK4TKJ), I would like to have more volunteers to fill NCS positions. I do plan and post the schedule months in advance. Any conditions will be accommodated that you as a rotating NCS need to place on the scheduling of your duties. If your plans change, I can make adjustments for the schedule to work, and I will make those changes happen as soon as I am notified of a problem. As Net Manager, I also send out reminders each week to let the NCS scheduled know he or she is NCS for the next Monday night net. In short, serving as a rotating NCS is a small duty but a great contribution to the club. The “Want, Swap, Sell Information Net” begins promptly at 19:30 every Monday night and runs about 30 minutes. As a scheduled NCS, you will request the assistance of a volunteer alternate NCS each time you have Net Control. Your simple duties will be to tune in to the GARS repeater, read the script, take a few notes and forward the information to me for record keeping.

Please lend a hand and contact (Chuck) via Email ([Click Here to Email our Net Manager](#)) to help support the effort that makes GARS the great club that it is. See you on the Nets!

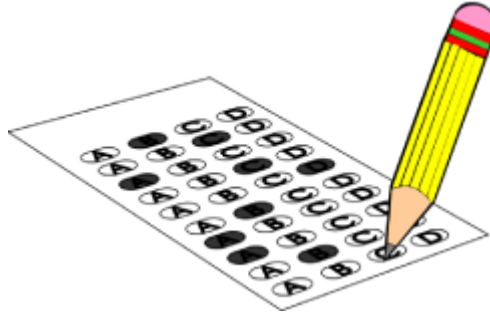
### Fridays on 440 Net

The “**Fridays on 440 Net**” starts at 8:30pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month on the 442.100 repeater. The general theme of the net will be a casual ragchew-style net with various, rotating topics of the night throughout its run. This net is also looking for additional NCS from the GARS members.

Contact Alex Kowalchuk, AK4AM or use our Net contact facility ([Click Here to Email our Net Manager](#)).

## General HamCram July 27 and 28 Results

### GARS GENERAL LICENSE HAMCRAM CLASS



We had a great ham cram exam session. Thanks to Ralph KJ4CNC and John WB4QDX for teaching this Ham Cram class.

➔ 7 upgraded to General

Special thanks to the Volunteer Examiners who made this special exam session possible:

W4DTR -- Dave (CVE)  
 KK4TKJ -- Chuck (CVE)  
 K4CQO -- Bob (CVE)  
 KM4SWL -- Richard  
 AB4QQ -- Russell  
 AF4FG -- Earl  
 W4SHT -- Lynn  
 WR1TR -- Bill  
 NF4L -- Nathan

## Upcoming GARS Technician HamCram

**WHEN:** Saturday September 28<sup>th</sup> 2024 and Sunday September 29<sup>th</sup>; 8:00am to 4:00pm each day, exams start at 4:00pm Sunday (this is a CLOSED exam session, only open to registered students of the class).

**WHERE:** EAA 690 Hangar, Gwinnett County Airport – Briscoe Field, [690 Airport Rd, Lawrenceville, GA 30046](#)

**MORE INFO:** <http://gars.org>. Preregistration is REQUIRED. No Walk-ins accepted. This fee is non-refundable. Our \$25 fee covers the class and lunch both days, and the exam fee for the exam given Sunday at 4:00pm.

We will be using the [Ham Radio School Technician License Study Guide](#) for this class. Go to [our exam page for sample online tests towards the bottom](#).

**QUESTIONS:** Questions about the class or the exam session — [click here](#) to email the instructors.

## Novice License Radio Equipment

### Vintage Amateur Radio

de Bill Shadid, W9MXQ



If you were licensed in the period beginning in 1951 up until 1974 and held a Novice License (in the United States) during that period, you are the subject of this article. In 1951, the Federal Communications Commission introduced three new licenses. Those included the Novice, Extra, and Technician Class. These new classes joined the existing Class A (name changed to Advanced), General, and Conditional Class licenses.

While much thought and preliminary work went into this change, we will not cover that process here. This article will focus on the Novice Class License and specifically the equipment used by holders of that unique license. And, that license class remains today with nearly 7,000 Novice license holders out of a total of nearly 780,000 licensees in the United States.

Up until the time of the new license classes, amateur operators in the United States could use crystal or VFO (Variable Frequency Oscillator) control of their transmitters. This was their choice based on their perceived need for frequency accuracy and stability.

For the short-wave bands, Novice license holders were restricted to CW operation and were allowed an input power to the final amplifier of their transmitter of seventy-five watts<sup>1</sup>. This was compared to 1,000 watts allowed to General, Advanced, and Extra class licensees of the time. Here is a complete listing of Novice Class Operating Privileges<sup>1</sup>:

Mode: Telegraphy (CW)

- 80 Meters – 3700 to 3750 kHz (specified as “kc” back then) (“kc” = kilocycles)
- 40 Meters – 7150 to 7200 kHz
- 15 Meters – 21100 to 21250 kHz
- 2 Meters – 145.0 to 147.0 MHz (specified as “Mc” back then) (“Mc” = Megacycles)

Mode: Voice (AM)

- 2 Meters – 145.0 to 147.0 MHz

Note that on 2 Meters that CW and AM privileges were in the same range.

The Novice license required no prior experience in ham radio – and it had a hard and fast rule that the license was for one year and was not renewable. The non-renewable rule was hard and fast – there was no provision for letting it expire and then taking the example and gaining the license again after a period of time. One and done!!

License call letters were, for the most part, predictors of the call letters of one’s post Novice future as a Technician, General, Advanced, or Amateur Extra license class. An example is my friend, Gary Drasch, K9DJT. When Gary was a Novice, he was KN9DJT, and he was reasonably certain that when he took his next class of license his call letters would simply drop the “N.” In case you have not guessed, the “N” stood for “Novice.” (See more about K9DJT in the station pictures at the end of this article).

The manufacturers stepped into the game of supplying this new class of amateur radio operator – the Novice – by marketing a wide variety of equipment that was suited to the operating legalities presented by the United States Federal Communications Commission (the FCC). Some suited only the operations of a Novice, but some also were of a higher order and would suit the amateur after he upgraded.



One such setup was from National Radio Institute, of Washington, DC, a supplier of mail order electronic educational programs – including a set of lessons on becoming a ham radio operator.



## Conar Model 500 Receiver (Left) and Model 400 Transmitter (Left)

Sold by National Radio Institute, Washington DC, in the 1960's

This advertisement, appearing in Electronics and Amateur Radio Specific magazines in the 1960's was a mainstay and something I memorized back in those days. The ad went on (from what is shown here) to describe the Model 500 Receiver as being available in kit form for \$37.50 and assembled for \$56.50. The model 400 Transmitter was available in kit form for \$32.50 and assembled for \$46.50. As an enticement, National Radio Institute offered a special \$64.00 package that included the Model 500 and 400 kits plus the ARRL Radio Amateur's Handbook, and the ARRL Radio Amateur's License Manual. These radios only operated on 80, 40, and 15 meters – totally in keeping with the Novice class license.

The Model 500 Receiver touted its ability to tune not only CW but also AM and SSB signals as well. The Model 400 Transmitter advertised sending CW (only) at a power input level of twenty-five watts. These little units (10.5" x 7.5" x 6.5") are still frequently seen at Hamfests to this day.

For a little more money, and certainly a little more style, and with the ability to send AM signals after upgrade was the Novice offering from the Heathkit, Benton Harbor, Michigan.





**Heathkit HR-10 Receiver**

**Heathkit DX-60 Transmitter**

Picture Reference from 1964: Note 1

These were kits only – who could forget Heathkit? The HR-10 Receiver sold for \$79.95 plus another \$8.95 for the HRA-10-1 Crystal Calibrator Kit. The DX-60 Transmitter also sold for \$79.95. But the radios both covered the HF bands of 80 through 10 meters. The transmitter had a setting for seventy-five watts input for the novice – but could attain ninety watts for more advanced licensees. The DX-60 Transmitter could also run sixty watts input on AM after the operator obtained his/her General Class license. And there was an accessory VFO kit for the DX-60, the Heathkit HG-10 for \$34.85 more that offered crystal free transmitter tuning for the General class licensee. The DX-60 was so popular that to this day there is an ongoing weekly “DX-60 AM Net” for these transmitters<sup>3</sup>.

Not to be outdone was the Hallicrafters Company, of Chicago. Those that know me know that easily Hallicrafters is my favorite vintage radio manufacturer. I love them all, but Hallicrafters always holds a special place for me.



**Hallicrafters SX-140 Receiver**



**Hallicrafters HT-40 Transmitter**

1961 Price Lists from the Hallicrafters Company

These radios were optionally offered as kits (Hallicrafters used the term, “Halli-Kits” for their kit

products). Fully assembled and tested prices were \$109.95 for the SX-140 Receiver and \$99.95 for the HT-40 Transmitter. Hallicrafters also offered a VFO for use with the HT-40 after the operator obtained his/her General License. That was the HA-5 and is very popular to this day as one of the best examples of a stable running VFO on the market at the time.

Before the SX-140 and HT-40 pair, Hallicrafters had another contender in a low power adaptation of their very popular S-38 Series Receiver. Note here this ten-watt output (CW only) receiver/transmitter:



**Hallicrafters SR-75 Receiver/Transmitter**

RigPix Database

The SR-75 came out in 1960 or 1961 and was in production for a very short time. The Transmitter shared no circuitry with the Receiver, so it was not really a “Transceiver” in the way we describe that kind of product, today. The transmitter and its tuning were accessed from the rear panel. It was a single tube addition to the base S-38 receiver. It could be run in transmit on any of the 80 through 10-meter bands of the day. There was no provision for modulation.

Back in the 1960's, it was not at all uncommon to have a receiver that was from one manufacturer and a transmitter from another. Also, at that time it was common to see a Novice (or other class) licensee using a commercial receiver but a home brew transmitter.

To the other players in this market, check below these popular transmitters and receivers of the time. These radios were not designed to necessarily operate with a matched unit from the same company.

First, let us look at several commercial transmitters that targeted the Novice licensee:







**Ameco AC-1**



**Ameco TX-86**

**Globe Scout 680**



**Eico 720**



**Eico 723**



**Johnson Viking Adventurer**

**Johnson Viking Ranger**



**Knight-Kit T-50**

**Knight-Kit T-60**

Many new Novice hams used a rather interesting series of products from Heathkit that amounted to early Receiver/Transmitter packages that progressively improved over time and model. Only one of these arrived during the time period of this article, however. That was the rather cult-like radio, the HW-16. Take a look at it here:



## Heathkit HW-16 Receiver/Transmitter

Heathkit Product Catalog

The HW-16 was a kit built, mostly vacuum tube radio operating only on the Novice bands of 80, 40, and 15-meter bands. And, on those bands, the coverage was only on the lower 250 kHz. Too bad, too, because this radio was worthy of operating by all license classes with its excellent receiver and transmitter performance.

Many companies made receivers dedicated to the Novice operator – more than the few shown in this article. Those will be covered in the next part of what will be a series on the Novice license and the equipment made in support of the licensees. Stay tuned for some future articles that cover experiences of owning only a couple of crystals and no way to move in the process of working other Novice operators who were blessed with the same transmitter frequency limitations as you. And, much more to come on the hardware. Before moving to a look at some Novice shack layouts, I think it might be important to look at a few crystals – the main stay of frequency control for the Novice operator:



## Typical Crystals used by Novice (and other) Class Licensees

(Note that these are not necessarily ham radio band crystals!)

W9MXQ Photo

For now, we will look at some example Novice stations from people you may know, people I have known in ham radio over the years, and others who are readers of this column:

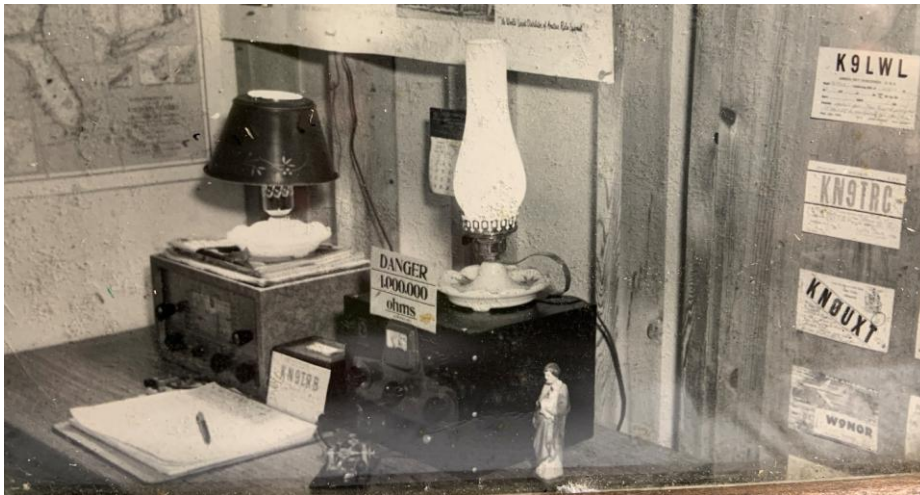




## Novice Station KN9DJT, Gary Drasch, 1960 – Now K9DJT

See the Globe Chief Transmitter (CW only), the Hallicrafters SX-110 Receiver, and the Hallicrafters R-48 Speaker. Photo is from 1960, when Gary received his Novice License.

K9DJT



## Novice Station KN9TRB, Paul Schumacher, 1958 – Now KD9FM

See the Heathkit AR-3 Receiver and E. F. Johnson Adventurer Transmitter (CW only). Also see the straight key with the shorting bar. Photo is from 1958, when Paul received his Novice License.

KD9FM



## Novice Station WN9NZH, Don Zank – Now AA9WP

See the Heathkit HW-16 (CW only). Don added a Heath HG-10 VFO when he received his General License, N9FGS. Photo is from the time when Paul received his Novice License.

AA9WP

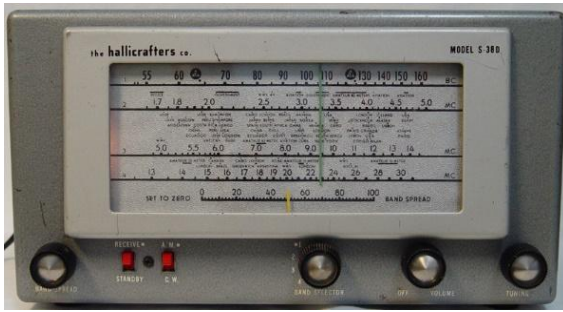


## Novice Station WN9FRG, Gary Sutcliffe, in 1970 – Now W9XT

Drake 2-C Receiver and a Heathkit DX-60B Transmitter

These are internet file photos – no personal pictures could be found. But Gary's original Novice Drake 2-C Receiver is currently being brought back to life.

Internet – Photographer Unknown



## Novice Station KN1OFU, Fred LeMere, in 1961 – Now KD9IGO

Hallicrafters S-38D Receiver and a Heathkit DX-20 Transmitter  
These are internet file photos – no personal pictures could be found.

Internet – Photographer Unknown



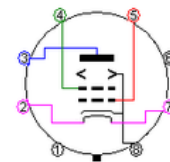
## Novice Station WN9JIC, Pat Volkmann – Now W9JI

Receiver and Transmitter Information is pending for this person. These are internet file photos – no personal pictures could be found.

Internet – Photographer Unknown



Single 6L6 Tube, Crystal Controlled CW Transmitter as noted below.



## Novice Station WN9FIY, Bob Bailey, in 1970 – Now W9DYQ

Military Surplus BC-348-P Receiver and Home Brew 6L6 Transmitter.  
The BC-348-P Receiver was built by Stromberg-Carlson. The 6L6 Transmitter was a modified circuit from the 1955 Edition ARRL Radio Amateur's Handbook.  
Bob refurbished the receiver and built the transmitter for his Novice station.

W9DYQ Photo





## Novice Station WN9BJU, Gary Frankeberger – Now WA9BJU

Hammarlund HQ-100 Receiver and a Heathkit DX-20 Transmitter.  
These are internet file photos – no personal pictures could be found.

Internet – Photographer Unknown



## Novice Station WN9JIC, Mark Gilger, in 1966 – Now WBØIQK

Knight-Kit R-100A Receiver and Knight-Kit T-60 Transmitter  
(See the Crystal – plugged in, just below the meter on the T-60 Transmitter)  
These are internet file photos – no personal pictures could be found.

Internet – Photographer Unknown

Stay tuned to these pages for subsequent installments. This is an evolving story with many more equipment stories and hopefully more people we know who were involved in this first phase of the Novice License. Some stations shown in this article have further stories to document their Novice experience – W9JI (ex-WN9JIC) and W9DYQ (ex-WN9FIY) to name two. After that we move into the phase of Novice License that allowed 250 watts of RF power and VFO control of the transmitter. For many, the Novice license was a great adventure with training for radio technique not to have been imagined at the time. Those of us that bypassed the Novice license – I started with my General – can never really match what they learned.

A special thanks go to Bob, W9DYQ, for his proof reading. I appreciate that you read my articles. Remember that I am open to questions and comments at my email address, [W9MXQ@TWC.com](mailto:W9MXQ@TWC.com).

### Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Reference is to the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) “*Radio Amateur’s License Manual*,” 1964 Edition.

<sup>2</sup> Reference <https://dx-60.net> – you do not need a Heathkit DX-60 Transmitter to check in, but AM is the preferred mode of operation.

© W9MXQ



## GARS Membership

### New Members in July

**New Members: 0**

**Total Members as of  
August 1, 2024  
347**

Join GARS members for our:

- weekly lunch bunch at 11:30 AM most Fridays
- weekly breakfast gathering at 8:00 AM most Saturdays



Friday weekly gatherings are held at the [Chilli's](#) at:

[947 Lawrenceville Suwanee Rd  
Lawrenceville, GA 30043](#)

Saturday weekly gatherings are held at the [Cracker Barrel](#) at:

[75 Celebration Dr  
Suwanee, GA 30024](#)

### Birthdays in August

Kyle Albritton (W4KDA)  
Emory Albritton  
Jim Barrett (K4PDY)  
Franco Bocalon (KQ4SAX)  
Stephen Dearman (KI4IXR)  
Philip Graham (N4PRG)  
George Guerin (KM4BOS)  
Jared Hawkins (KM4SSI)  
Conor Huneycutt (KN4VNU)  
Leonard Johns (KQ4OSW)  
Jason Johnson (KN6PIN)  
Gary Jones (W4HX)  
Robert Keeney (KN8RG)  
Ron Langston (WE5O)  
Samuel McClure (KM4AAO)  
Lige Sims (AB4OK)  
Robert Sloan (WA4DD)  
Sahan Thanthiriwatte (KQ4BKE)  
Connie Weathers  
Earl Whatley (AF4FG)  
Larry Whited (AB4NX)

### GARS MEMBERSHIP

Your current GARS membership status is shown in the monthly newsletter e-mail towards the bottom of the message. To become a GARS member, or to renew your GARS membership, please visit our website – <http://www.gars.org>. To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new e-mail address, new phone number, etc.), please contact the Membership Chair at [Email](mailto:membership@gars.org) (<https://gars.org/contact/>) with any changes to your Membership information.

**Membership Chair:** Karen Albritton, KI4HPP

**Committee Members:** Dave Bruse, W4DTR

### ARRL MEMBERSHIP

To update your ARRL membership information, please visit their website - <http://www.arrl.org>.

### MAINTAIN YOUR LICENSE

You can update your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free - <https://www.fcc.gov/wireless/universal-licensing-system>. License renewal is subject to the \$35 FCC fee.





## Donating to GARS

Your GARS donation can be used for a certain purpose by donating to one of these funds:

- GARS SK Memorial Fund for Education (to remember and honor Silent Keys);
- GARS Scholarship Fund (Administered by the ARRL for awarding scholarships);
- GARS General Fund (any club purpose).

GARS has joined these rewards programs (a portion of every purchase you make through these merchants may be donated to GARS):

- Kroger Community Rewards program.

For more information on how to sign up for these rewards programs, or to donate to GARS, visit

<http://gars.org/gars/donations-to-the-club>

## GARS on Social Media



Discord Request:

<http://gars.org/discord>



Groups.io:

<http://gars.org/groups.io>



Visit GARS on Facebook:

<http://gars.org/facebook>



Follow GARS on X:

[https://x.com/GARS\\_Hams](https://x.com/GARS_Hams)



Join GARS on YouTube:

<http://gars.org/youtube>

## GARS Mail Address:

**GARS**  
P.O. Box 492531  
Lawrenceville, GA 30049

## Officers



Kevin Igarashi-Ball, President W4KIB



Alex Kowalchuk, Vice President AK4AM



Drew White, Secretary KQ4NUQ



Glen Wendt, Treasurer W3WWT



Kevin Scott, Program Manager K4GTR

## Managers and Committee Chairs



Karen Albritton, Membership Chair KI4HPP



Dave Bruse, VE Team Leader W4DTR



David Adcock, Webmaster KA4KKF



Ralph Pickwick, Education Chair KJ4CNC



Earl Whatley, Apparel Manager AF4FG



Bob Hoffmann, GARzette Editor K4CQO



Eddie Foust, Repeater Chair WD4JEM



Mike Weathers, WAS / DXCC QSL Card Checker and Historian ND4V



Chuck McCord, Net Manager KK4TKJ



Steve Back, Technical / RFI Advisor WB2OGY



Dallas Mellichamp, Workshop Leader N4DDM



Sandy Jackson, Health and Wellbeing KJ4DRO



Kevin Igarashi-Ball, Multimedia Chair W4KIB



Dallas Mellichamp, Georgia QSO Chair N4DDM



Neil Derryberry, Elmer Manager WD4NET

Open Winter Field Day Chair, Field Day Chair, TechFest Chair

## Directors and Trustees



Joe Biddle, AD4PZ



Kyle Albritton, W4KDA



John Davis, WB4QDX



Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN W4GR Trustee



## **GARS Meeting Minutes**

### **GARS – MEETING 7/9/2024**

President Kevin Igarashi-Ball (W4KIB) opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and closed the meeting at approximately 8:28p.m.

- New hams and visitors: Kevin (W4KIB)
  - First time visitors recognized.
- Introductions
- July birthdays listed, and congratulated.
- Treasurer Report: Glen (W3WWT)
- Membership: Kevin (W4KIB) Currently there are 350 members (4 new members).
- Education: Ralph (KJ4CNC)
  - Shutdown complete at McConnell Middle School
  - General HamCram: July 27-28
  - Installing equipment at Lilburn Elementary
- VE Team: Bob (K4CQO)
  - Consistently seeing 10-12 people for testing
  - New extra question pool went effect in July
- Programs: Kevin (K4GTR)
  - July – Mobile Installs.
  - August – DMR practical applications
  - September – Practical Basic Antennas
  - Check the Site for more information.
- Repeaters: David (KA4KKF)
  - Doubled power on Bogan Road repeater
  - Sneville Winlink Gateway now W4KIB-10
- Call for Volunteers (W4KIB)
  - TechFest Chair
  - Winter Field Day Chair
  - Field Day Chair
  - Stone Mountain Hamfest
- Other:
  - Hal (W4IGE): Gwinnett ARES Meeting on July 23<sup>rd</sup>
  - Steve (WB2OGY): JOTA on October 19<sup>th</sup>
- Program: Mobile Installs with Alex Kowalchuk (AK4AM)

---

### **Workshop Minutes - July 16, 2024**

**Number in Attendance:** 10

**Workshop Topic:** Mobile Installations

**Presenter:** Alex Kowalchuk AK4AM

**Brief Summary:** We had 2 members show up with questions about installing radios and antennas in/on their vehicles. Many joined them outside to discuss how they did their installs and what things to avoid.

Eddie AK4WM tried to stump the Elmers with his Yaesu Atas-120A Active Tuning Antenna install. He purchased it and a VHF/UHF - HF duplexer so he could operate from 40m to 70cm on one antenna. A quick trip to the Internet showed that a Yaesu ATAS-120A active tuning antenna covers the 7, 14, 21, 28, 50, 144, and 430 MHz Amateur bands.

**Elmers are always present at the GARS Workshops. Feel free to bring your questions to the Workshop and if your project is small enough to get to the meeting, let us know in advance via email so we can have tools, test gear, etc.**



## Events – GARS and others

### ARRL CONTESTING INFO

From ARRL Contest Calendar

> For more information click the links <

#### 2024 January

1 [Straight Key Night](#)

6 [Kid's Day](#)

6-7 [RTTY Roundup](#)

20-22 [January VHF Contest](#)

#### February

12-16 [School Club Roundup](#)

17-18 [International DX – CW](#)

#### March

2-3 [DX Contest – SSB](#)

#### April

21 [Rookie Roundup – Phone](#)

#### May

No planned contests

#### June

1-2 International Digital Contest

8-10 [June VHF](#)

15 [Kid's Day](#)

22-23 [Field Day](#)

#### July

13-14 [IARU HF World Championship](#)

#### August

3-4 [222 MHz and Up Dis Contest](#)

17-18 [10 GHz & Up – Round 1](#)

18 [Rookie Roundup – RTTY](#)

24-25 [EME - 2.3 GHz & Up](#)

#### September

14-16 [September VHF](#)

21-22 [EME - 2.3 GHz & Up – Rnd 2](#)

21-22 [10 GHz & Up – Wknd 1](#)

#### October

19-20 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)

21-25 [School Club Roundup](#)

#### November

2-4 [Nov. Sweepstakes - CW](#)

16-17 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)

16-18 [Nov. Sweepstakes - Phone](#)

#### December

6-8 [160 Meter](#)

14-15 [10 Meter](#)

22 [Rookie Roundup–CW](#)

For more information:

<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>

### HAMFEST CALENDAR

[Please confirm the status of a Hamfest before making plans to attend]

**08/17/2024 - 08/18/2024 Huntsville Hamfest, ARRL SE Div. Conv.**

**Location:** Huntsville, AL

**Type:** ARRL Convention

**Sponsor:** Huntsville Hamfest, Inc.

**Website:** <http://hamfest.org>

**09/21/2024 - Gadsden Hamfest**

**Location:** Gadsden, AL

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Gadsden Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** <http://Gadsdenhamfest.com>

**10/19/2024 - MARCIFEST 2024**

**Location:** Bradenton, FL

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Manatee Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

**10/26/2024 - Wiregrass ARC - Fall Tailgate**

**Location:** Headland, AL

**Type:** ARRL HamFest

**Sponsor:** Wiregrass ARC

**Website:** <http://w4dhn.org>

**11/09/2024 - Montgomery Hamfest**

**Location:** Montgomery, AL

**Type:** ARRL HamFest

**Sponsor:** Montgomery Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** <http://w4ap.org>

**11/23/2024 - Flamingo Net Flea at U. of Miami**

**Location:** Coral Gables, FL

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Flamingo Net

**Website:** <http://FlamingoNet.8m.net>

**12/13/2024 - 12/14/2024**

**[Tampa Bay Hamfest, ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention](#)**

**Location:** Plant City, FL

**Type:** ARRL Convention

**Sponsor:** Florida Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Council

**Website:** <http://www.fgcarc.org/>

**04/05/2025 - Daleville Area Hamfest**

**Location:** Daleville, AL

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Daleville Area Amateur Radio Service

**Website:** <https://daleville.us/daleville-area-hamfest>

For more information: [www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar](http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar)

When searching by division, remember some states adjacent to GA are in different divisions: Southeastern: GA, AL, FL Delta: TN Roanoke: NC, SC



GARS Events Calendar for 2024		GARS Recurring Calendar
<a href="#">TechFest</a> Winter Field Day Dog Show Fundraiser Spring Technician HamCram <a href="#">Georgia QSO Party</a> North metro area Fox Hunt <a href="#">Memorial Day Parade</a> <a href="#">ARC/KARC Hamfest</a> <a href="#">Field Day</a> Summer General HamCram Fall Technician HamCram <a href="#">JOTA</a> <a href="#">Stone Mt. Hamfest</a> Holiday Party	January 13 2024 January 27-28 2024 March 5-6 2024 March 23-24, 2024 April 13-14 2024 April 2024 May 27 2024 June 1 2024 June 22-23 2024 July 27-28, 2024 September 28-29 2024 October 2024 November 2-3 2024 December 7 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm (except December) Monthly Club Meeting 690 Airport Rd, Lawrenceville, GA 30046</li> <li>3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm (except December) Monthly Workshop 690 Airport Rd, Lawrenceville, GA 30046</li> <li>3rd Sunday of the Month at 2 pm <a href="#">GARS Ham Exam Session</a> 690 Airport Rd Lawrenceville, GA 30046</li> <li>Every Monday at 7:30 pm: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater</li> <li>2nd and 4th Friday at 8:30 pm. GARS 440 Talk Net</li> <li>Every Monday at 8:30 pm: ARES Training on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater</li> <li>Every Friday at 11:30 am, GARS Lunch at Chillis</li> <li>Every Saturday at 8:00 am GARS Breakfast at Cracker Barrel</li> </ul>
GARS Calendar for August 2024		

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
					11:30 AM Lunch at Chillis	8:00 AM Breakfast at Cracker Barrel
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	7:30 – 8:00 PM 2M Net	7:00 PM Exec Meeting			11:30 AM Lunch at Chillis  8:30 - 9:30 PM 70CM Talk Net	8:00 AM Breakfast at Cracker Barrel
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	7:30 – 8:00 PM 2M Net	7:00 PM Meeting EAA 690 Hangar			11:30 AM Lunch at Chillis	8:00 AM Breakfast at Cracker Barrel
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
2:00 PM GARS Ham Radio Exams, EAA 690 Hangar	7:30 – 8:00 PM 2M Net	7:00 PM Workshop Meeting EAA 690 Hangar			11:30 AM Lunch at Chillis  8:30 - 9:30 PM 70CM Talk Net	8:00 AM Breakfast at Cracker Barrel
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	7:30 – 8:00 PM 2M Net				11:30 AM Lunch at Chillis	8:00 AM Breakfast at Cracker Barrel





## Local Ham Radio Exams & Meetings

### GARS Ham Radio Exams

**GARS Exam Sessions are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month**

Preregistration is **REQUIRED**

Doors open at 1:45pm, exams start promptly by 2:00pm

For more information and to preregister, please visit <https://gars.org/exams/>

GARS VE-Team

VEC: W5YI-VEC

EAA 690 Hangar

690 Airport Rd

Lawrenceville, GA 30046

GARS VE Team Leaders

E-mail: [exams@gars.org](mailto:exams@gars.org).



### July 2024 Results

The GARS VE Team exam session results from July 21<sup>st</sup>.

1 new General (passed Tech & General):

- Samuel Sander - KQ4TYX

1 Upgrade to General:

- Kenneth Guyton – KK4DFL

1 Upgrade to Extra:

- Charles Hardt – WD9IAR

4 New Technicians:

- Kenneth Archibald - KQ4UDR
- Freddy Ferrer - KQ4UDS – also received General at the following week's HamCram
- Bradley Leggett - KQ4UCG
- Thomas Yombor - KF8BVH

Special thanks to the Volunteer Examiners who made this exam session possible:

W4DTR DAVID BRUSE

AF4FG MARVIN WHATLEY

KJ4CNC Ralph Pickwick

KM4SWL RICHARD KITZ

W4SHT Lynn Hatker

WB2OGY STEVEN BACK

KQ4DWZ Douglas Hooper

Thanks & 73, Bob Hoffmann, K4CQO (Co-CVE)

### Local Ham Radio Exams

In order to find an exam session near you, please visit

[http://www.arrl.org/exam\\_sessions/](http://www.arrl.org/exam_sessions/).

Contact the information in the listing for further information.



### Local Ham Radio Meetings

In order to find a local Ham Radio Club meeting near you, please visit

<http://www.arrl.org/find-a-club>.

Contact the club for meeting information.



**Note:** The Amateur Extra question pool expired on June 30, 2024, and all Amateur Extra exams will use the new question pool beginning on July 1, 2024. If you are studying for Amateur Extra, be sure your study guide is for the correct question pool (usually printed on the cover).

## GARS Supporters

**Serving You From Coast to Coast and Around the World**



**Order Toll-Free From a Location Near You  
Or Take Advantage of Secure 24-Hour Ordering:**  
<http://www.hamradio.com>






If your closest 800 number is busy, please call one of our other numbers.  
 Phone Hours: 9:30 am to 5:30 pm Monday – Saturday  
 All Stores Open 10am - 5:30pm Monday - Saturday  
**24-Hour FAX Order Lines at all Store Locations**

Ham Radio Outlet App available at:







**ATLANTA, GA 30340**  
 6071 Buford Hwy, Doraville  
 1 mile north of I-285  
 (770) 263-0700  
 (800) 444-7927  
 24 Hour FAX (770) 263-9548  
 Email: [atlanta@hamradio.com](mailto:atlanta@hamradio.com)

**Toll Free Numbers:**

Northeast	(800) 644-4476
West	(800) 654-6046
Southeast	(800) 444-7927
Mountain	(800) 444-9476
Mid-Atlantic	(800) 444-4799
New England	(800) 444-0047





**Dr. Erin Pickwick**  
[www.GraysonHeritageDental.com](http://www.GraysonHeritageDental.com)

2023 Highway 20, Suite 203  
 Grayson, GA 30017  
 (678) 226-4466

- Restorative: crowns & bridges • Cosmetic bonding & veneers
- Implants: placement & restoration • Root canals • Extractions
- Clear tray aligners • Very Affordable Membership Plans







HATS • MUGS • SHIRTS  
 ETC

[BITSPRINTANDPRESS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BITSPRINTANDPRESS@GMAIL.COM)

In order to have your ad included, contact [editor@gars.org](mailto:editor@gars.org). Current ad prices per year are:

Business Card	\$50
1/4 page	\$125
1/2 page	\$150
Full page	\$200

For swap items, post and see items on GARS groups.io (<https://groups.io/g/GARS>).